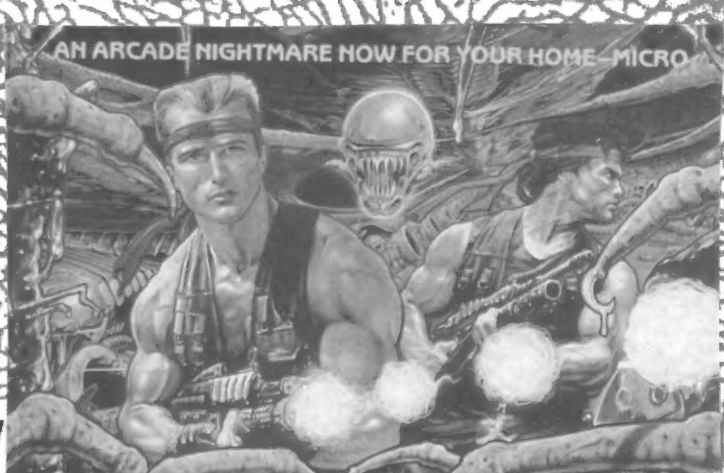


ISSUE 1



AN ARCADE NIGHTMARE NOW FOR YOUR HOME MICRO



# DO YOU KNOW HARDCORE?

Yo yo Eggbo, welcome to the first issue of Do You Know Hardcore? fanzine. I don't want to waste too much space on this introduction, mostly because space is very limited. Maybe some of you are familiar with my old zine, the big difference is that DYKHC will be a 2 pages fanzine, and I don't want to change this in the future. Help or support of any kind for this fanzine will be most appreciated. Enjoy reading the interview with Contra, and keep your eyes open for another one! Hardcore is the greatest thing ever happened to me, lets start jammin'!

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## Contra

collective unconscious

7" out soon on 9 LIES RECORDS!

Contra used to be a two-man band. How did you decide who you wanted to add to the band? What is the current lineup of Contra and is it solid now? Adam: This band is basically our old punk band under a new name, so 3 out of 5 members were a given from the first moment. Laci was a good friend and I knew he is good on the guitar so I asked him to fill the lineup. Ivan joined 3 years ago after the Rixe show where he told me that adding a 2nd guitar would ruin the band's sound, but if we want him, we could call him. He was a friend of ours and he is the ultimate skinhead so, of course, we invited him. Describe your band! Contra is the bastard offspring of a ... / ... one-night stand. Adam: Agnostic Front / Contra the video game! The upcoming 7 inch sounds like it has more of your own sound compared to the LP. What was different about the writing-recording process for the new songs? What did you listen to for inspiration and influence? Adam: Most of this record was written in 2018. We used the same approach as always, the only difference is we were in a bit of a hurry because we wanted the drums recorded before the birth of Marci's daughter. I don't think I had listened to anything for the purpose of influencing myself. Just some old classics like AF and YoT, some new records (at the time) from Warthog, Cadaver Dog, Blood Pressure, Stigmatism etc., and a lot of metal, of course.

It seems to me all the lyrics on the new record are really political. Well-written and at the same time, none of that edgy "fuck the government" shit. Tell us about your lyrics! Adam: The lyrics are a mix of personal and political topics. As you would expect, the new ones are mostly rants about the recent actions of our government. The situation is really frustrating for me. They smart and very selfish at the same time. The way they manage all of it makes you feel like you can't do anything about it. Not one thing! What about "Rat Race"? Adam: Rat Race is about modern people who use scales to rank themselves. What do you wear, where do you work, where do you hang out, how do you present yourself on social media. Many people do certain things just to show off. It's bullshit and at the same time everyone has a very strong opinion that they do what is universally the best which leaves no room for any discussion. "Every lie can turn into unquestioned truth, if you repeat it ten thousand times." Most political propaganda uses the same techniques to manipulate. Propaganda is working pretty well in Hungary because people are receptive to that kind of message. What is the reason for this? Adam: I think there are two factors to consider. Firstly, there is basic human nature...It's easier to hate than to love. Besides, blaming someone else has always been easier. Secondly, the government realized they can build on this mentality and perfectly nailed the psychological manipulation. They always make good enemies for the people to hate, they present their ideas in all channels and they know how to suck in people with their approach. It's their blueprint to defeat the competition and in the mean time they stick together.



photo by Radi

The name obviously fits the music. What other names did you go through before you settled on Contra? Adam: We had some very bad names like Blind Fury, Punchline or Bad Dream, but I don't remember which ones were considered serious. When Marci suggested Contra I said it sounds like a Brazilian thrash band. Do you consider Contra a negative band? Adam: Yes, definitely. All the lyrics are about topics where I'm desperately looking for a solution of some kind, but I can't find any. How do you feel about people sometimes labeling you a skinhead/Oi band? Adam: I have no problem with that. Skinhead bands and skinhead-influenced hardcore bands could definitely be considered our influence.

photo by Tomi



Laci-guitar, Ivan-guitar, Tomi-bass, Adam-vocals, Marci-drums

What are your views on the current virus pandemic/economic crisis? What changes do you see forthcoming in the hardcore scene? What will happen to the small music clubs? Adam: I have no idea. Bands will survive for sure and I hope the few venues that host these shows will also survive. This is hard because not only the venues struggle, but also a big portion of people who could support them struggle. One thing is certain, I will get life insurance before the first show in this upcoming new world. Do you think that hardcore is progressing or regressing in 2020? Adam: Progressing definitely. There are some negative things to mention, but those are nothing new. I see many new bands, many cool shows. What's the best Bad Brains song ever and why? (Today my vote goes to "Sacred Love". All the vocals you hear in this song were sung through a prison phone. Before recording, HR smoked weed in jail, while being in jail for weed.) Adam: Sacred Love is very cool, not only because of the story behind it, but my favourite is Big Takeover. I had the ROIR album with wrong track order and that was the first song so that was the very first I ever heard from them and also the first hardcore song I learned on guitar. What's your fave Warzone era? Adam: I would say Street Kids demo era. Still a skinhead sound, but songs from LESC and DFTS sound very cool. The Batmite, Charlie, Todd Youth and Tito lineup is the best. Do you actually like the 3rd Warzone LP? I seriously need some help, drums really sound like a drum machine on that album. Is it a drum machine or actual drums? Adam: No, I don't like it. Whenever I see the cover it reminds me of the Robocop movie. It could be the soundtrack for that movie. "For better or worse, whatever I've done in my past has come to shape me into the monster I am now." Is Harley a monster? Adam: No, I think he is pretty good considering how he grew up. He was nice when I met him. He still seems to have something to prove and he tries way too hard, that's the only negative thing to mention. Did you enjoy the Cro-Mags quarantine show? Adam: I watched it live and it was the best quarantine show out of the 3 I watched. Cool setlist as always, the performance was spot on. I don't remember any embarrassing stage banter. And there was the 5th member, Rocky George's hair. First tattoo or latest tattoo? Adam: The latest is the logo of my other band Touch. Am I the only one here who still thinks "New Breed Tape Compilation" was cooler than "The Way It Is Compilation"? Adam: No, I also prefer New Breed. Although I prefer the bands on The Way It Is more but the songs are much better on New Breed. Right from the first song from Absolution, it's 100%. What are some newer bands today, you feel deserve recognition or more recognition than they actually get? Adam: Loose Nukes, Electric Chair, maybe they are recognized, but not amongst my friends. Also, Gear from Budapest is very good although not many people seem to care.

What's one hardcore story/memory that always makes you smile on a bad day? Adam: I have a recent one. With one of my friends, we travelled to Kosice to see Big Cheese and Mere Mortal. There was a local band called Skladka (meaning garbage) supporting them. They were not very good on their instruments but they played with very high intensity like their life depended on it. And because they were the local band there was a crazy moshpit. I imagine the atmosphere in A7 must have been similar. They also had huge bags of empty beer cans that everyone was throwing around. They went to a thrift store before the show, bought lots of shitty shirts/denim jackets and spraypainted their logo on them, that was their merch. Everything about that show makes me smile. I even recorded it which I rarely do. Krakdown demo or Breakdown demo? (Dini's question) Adam: For me Krakdown is not a gamechanger band, but the Breakdown demo is a milestone so I pick Breakdown. Closing comments? Adam: Thank you for this chat and all the support from everyone since our band started!

photo by Radi



You thought it was long gone, but yeah people still use winamp! Winamp for those who aren't fake, fuck spotify!

ISSUE 1.0 PLAYLIST

Dedicated to the core and the colossal man (he got radiation and grew real big)!



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